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ABSTRACT

A hydraulic power steering system for use in a vehicle to eliminate energy waste when power assist is not required is disclosed. The hydraulic power steering system includes a pulley powered by a crankshaft in the vehicle, a clutch operably connected to the pulley, a hydraulic pump operably connected to the clutch, and controlling means for engaging and disengaging the clutch with the pulley and the hydraulic pump to provide hydraulic power to the system. It also includes a hydraulic accumulator to provide system pressure for short periods before the pump clutch can engage in response to a steering input.

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